UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA, ET AL.
LMRA-IM; CONSPIRACY;
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY
11-22-63
DALLAS, TEXAS

DATE: March 4, 1964

SAC Faisst of the Birmingham Office advised on the evening of 3-3-64, that one Clarence Daniel Smelley contacted him on the evening of 3-3-64, and advised that he was a steward in the Teamsters Union and desired to "untie a few knots" in the Chattanooga, Tennessee, trial of Hoffa. Smelley refused to come to the office and he was interviewed at a barbecue stand by two Bureau Agents of the Birmingham Office.

According to SAC Faisst, Smelley stated that in 1962 he and another man, whom he refused to identify, were contacted by James Riddle Hoffa and they drove to Nashville, Tennessee, where they met with (First Name Unknown) King and (First Name Unknown) Dorfman. Smelley alleged that he was paid $20,000 in $50 and $20 bills which was used to pay off a juryman in a trial concerning Hoffa which trial ended in a mistrial.

Smelley alleged that he was again contacted by Hoffa in 1963 and he drove to Washington, D. C., with the same unnamed companion where he met with Hoffa. At this time, Lee Harvey Oswald was present and received "the contract" from Hoffa to assassinate President Kennedy, after which deed, he was to kill the Attorney General.

Smelley indicated that he had tape recordings available concerning his contacts with Hoffa and he will not release them until he meets with his unnamed companion. Smelley stated that he feared for his life.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan

62-101060-2527

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ORIGINAL FILED IN 77-101111

Section 48

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RE: JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA, ET AL.

SAC Faisst indicated that Smelley is the nephew of the Chief of Administrative Services Joe Smelley of the Alabama Highway Patrol and that Joe Smelley is a friend of SA J. T. Arnett of the Birmingham Office.

SAC Faisst indicated that SA Arnett, a former Alabama Highway Patrolman, could contact Joe Smelley without divulging the reason to get an evaluation of Clarence Daniel Smelley to determine his reliability. SAC Faisst was told not to do this but on the contact with Clarence Daniel Smelley, which is set up for tomorrow, to obtain all specifics from him as to dates of travel, etc. In this regard, SAC Faisst stated that SA Harry Posey who conducted the interview of Clarence Smelley on 3-3-64, advised it was like "getting blood from a turnip" to pin him down as to specifics.

By way of background, SAC Faisst stated that Clarence Smelley is employed by the Jack Cole Trucking Company in Birmingham and is a member of Local 612 of the Teamsters Union where he is a job steward. He is described as a white male, date of birth - 8-26-32, Talladega, Alabama, five feet ten inches, 145 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. He resides at 214 A Street, Robinwood Station, Birmingham.

Birmingham and Bureau files contain no pertinent identifiable information on Smelley; however, the Identification Division has furnished an Identification record indicating that Smelley under FBI # [redacted] has been [redacted]

ACTION:

SAC Faisst is alerting the Memphis, Knoxville, Mobile and Dallas Offices to above information and will thoroughly check it out.

Following the interview of Clarence Smelley at approximately 1:00 p.m., 3-4-64, SAC Faisst will furnish additional details.

Expedite.

memo to Mr. Belmont 3/5/64.